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most useful and the index is really a guide and not, as it too often is, a hindrance. The book is very well and clearly printed and should be read by all who are interested in the scientific development of the law. F. H. B.

A TREATISE ON THE LAW AND PRACTICE OF VOLUNTARY ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF CREDITORS, adapted to the Laws of the various States with an Appendix of Forms. By ALEXANDER M. BURRILL. Sixth Edition, Revised and Enlarged, and an Appendix of State Statutes added by JAMES AVERY WEBB. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Co., 66 Nassau Street. 1894.

A new edition of this standard work is opportunely timed to supply a demand for information on a subject which at present must necessarily occupy the thought and attention of many attorneys. Mr. Burrill's work, originally published in 1853, has in the course of its six editions been through the hands of several editors, and in its present shape is a practical and satisfactory statement of the law on a subject which is necessarily complicated by the variety of statutes upon which it is based. The present editor, Mr. Webb, has removed from the text all quotations from state statutes, and has added as an appendix a synopsis of the statutes of the several states and territories relating to assignments for the benefit of creditors. While an attempt to paraphrase a statute is always to be deprecated, it may perhaps be justified in a text book on a subject involving a large amount of statutory law.

One of the most interesting chapters of the book relates to the subject of Preferences. The rule at common law was well established that a debtor in failing circumstances has a right in an assignment to prefer one creditor to another. The tendency of recent legislation, however, has been to restrict this privilege. Many of the older states have in recent years passed laws restricting it, and the new states, such as Oklahama, North Dakota, South Dakota and others, have forbidden it. The subject of preference has given rise to litigation in many cases where there has been a conflict

between the laws of a state permitting preferences, and one which forbids them. A large portion of the chapter headed "The *lex loci* in its application to assignments," is given up to a discussion of this subject.

The general powers of the assignee are fully and clearly treated, but somewhat more might have been said on the question of the extent to which the assignee may conduct the business of the assignor.

While much new matter has been added to this edition the size of the book has been decreased by using smaller type and by increasing the size of the type page. It cannot be said, however, that the appearance of the page has been improved by the process. ALBERT B. WEIMER.

SYPHILIS IN THE INNOCENT (Syphilis Insontium). Clinically and Historically Considered, with Plan for the Legal Control of the Disease. By D. DUNCAN BULKLEY, A.M., M.D. New York: Bailey & Fairchild. 1893.

The scope and character of this work are well stated in the following extracts from the introduction:

"Syphilis is not essentially a venereal disease. It has been too frequently regarded as being only such, and consequently some of its important features have been overlooked. Many able writers described well its clinical history, pathology and treatment, as also its connection with prostitution; but the element of its non-venereal character, in many instances, has been relatively little considered, and no full presentation of the subject has ever been made. In the present essay the attempt is made to consider only this single aspect of the malady, namely its innocent occurrence and the modes of infection whereby it is innocently acquired by means wholly unconnected with the venereal act."

"Clinical records, more or less complete, are given of one hundred and sixteen original personal cases of extra-genital chancres, a greater number than has ever before been reported by any observer in the United States."

"A table has been prepared exhibiting the location of over